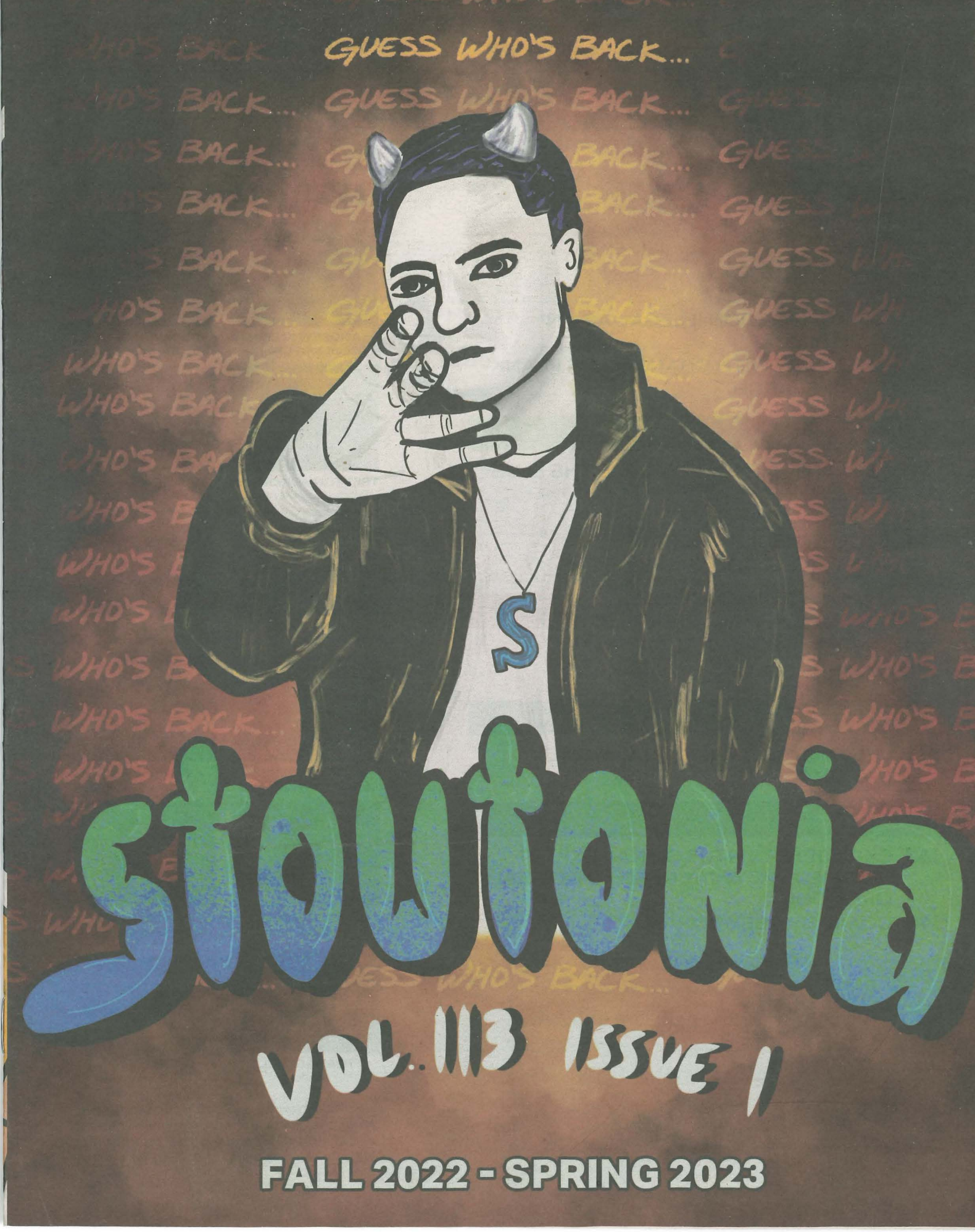

GUESS WHO'S BACK...
STOUTONIA
VOL. 113 ISSUE 1
FALL 2022 - SPRING 2023

STOUTONIA

VOL. 113 ISSUE 01 · April 2023

E-MAIL | stoutonia@uwstout.edu
ADS | stoutoniaads@uwstout.edu
PHONE | 715-232-2272
WEBSITE | stoutonia.com

CONTENTS

CAMPUS

3 WHO IS LOIS?
4 UW SPROUT
5 "MAKE ABORTION ILLEGAL AGAIN" EVENT RECAP
7 INTERVIEW WITH CHANCELLOR FRANK
8 WORD SEARCH

NEWS

9 NEW AND IMPROVED: BLAZE THE BLUE DEVIL
10 STOUTS NEW LOGO
11 STOUT THEATER IS BACK!
12 MEET THE STAGE MANAGERS

ENTERTAINMENT

13 MAKERS NIGHT
14 CAMPUS SQUIRRELS

SPORTS

15 CHASING RECOGNITION: BOYS XC AT NATIONALS

SATIRE

17 EX-TWITTER VIRTUE SIGNAL EXPERT WORRIED THEY MAY NEED TO DO REAL LIFE GOOD
18 COMIC BY ABBY BORASH

MEET THE STAFF!

ANDREW KNEEN
Editor-in-Chief

BECKY GASPORD
Social Media Manager

TREYTON ACKERMAN
Production Manager

MADISON AMERINE
Ad Manager

FAITH HUEY
Chief Copy Editor

ANNIE JACOBSON
Staff Writer

BAILEY PEDERSEN
Entertainment Editor

ABBY BORASH
Art Director

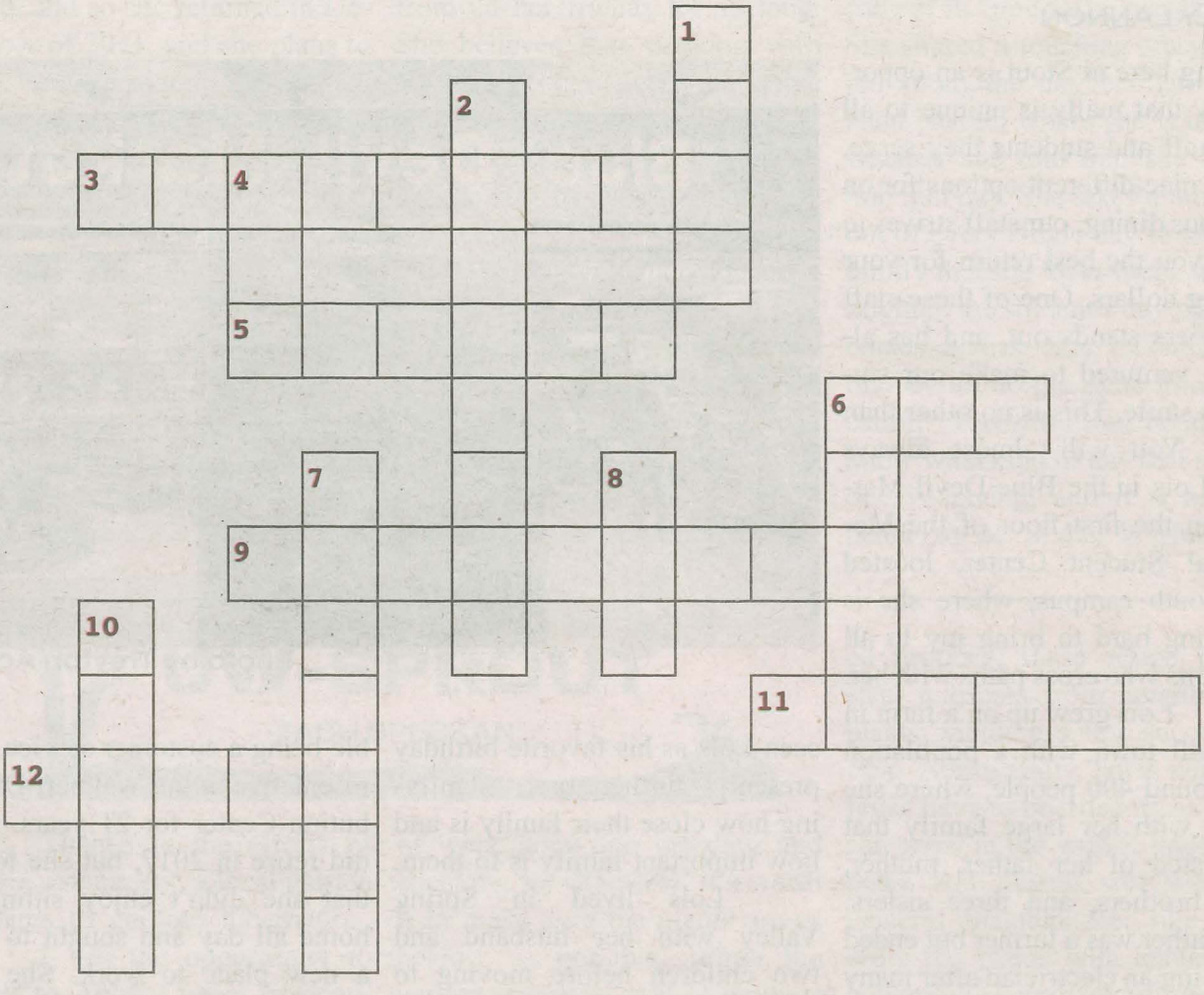
ISABEL JAROSZ
News Editor

CAITLIN EVANS
Online Manager

RYAN LECKEL
Adviser

Special thanks to: Zach Speckan, Taylor Knoepke, Haley Lannon, Rachel Humphrey, and Cynthia Romano for their contributions to this issue of Stoutonia

STOUTONIA CROSSWORD



Across

3. Song that started playing during the Kristan Hawkins Event

5. Name of the Stout squirrel

6. Org abbr. that hosts makers night

9. Student org that is hiring!

11. Main character in the Stout spring musical

12. Katherine Frank is what number chancellor?

Down

1. Along with 8 down, first name of Stout stage managers

2. Name of Stout's community garden

4. Building where Lois worked

6. Blue Devil name

7. Word written in bodypaint

8. Along with 1 down, first name of Stout stage managers

10. Icon on Stout's old logo

WHO IS LOIS?

HAILY LANNON

Dining here at Stout is an opportunity that really is unique to all the staff and students they serve. With nine different options for on campus dining, our staff strives to give you the best return for your dining dollars. One of these staff members stands out, and has always ventured to make our students smile. This is no other than Lois. You will almost always find Lois in the Blue Devil Market on the first floor of the Memorial Student Center, located on South campus, where she is working hard to bring joy to all students who cross paths with her.

Photo by Treyton Ackerman

Lois grew up on a farm in a small town with a population of around 400 people, where she lived with her large family that consisted of her father, mother, four brothers, and three sisters. Her father was a farmer but ended up being an electrician after many years of farm work. They lived in a very tight knit community, and they loved it there. She states that she "wouldn't change it at all" because she loved the feeling that brought everyone together.

She has always been close to her siblings. Growing up they had their own baseball team and would play together, and even today she keeps in close contact with her sisters, and they frequently visit each other. One of her brothers is exactly a year and a day older than she is, and he has always seen Lois as his favorite birthday present, furthermore, signifying how close their family is and how important family is to them.

Lois lived in Spring Valley with her husband and two children before moving to Menomonie. Her husband was a farmer too, and her children were only a year and a half and three months old when they lived there. Her husband unfortunately passed away in 1979 from a farming accident, and Lois thought it best to move somewhere where it would be easier to raise her children alone. She found Menomonie to be the perfect size city, and they moved here in 1980.

After moving to Menomonie, Lois worked a few different jobs around town, the most notable being a customer service representative at the Walmart Distribution Center for 21 years. Lois did retire in 2017, but she found that she didn't enjoy sitting at home all day and sought to find a new place to work. She had been working at the same job for so many years that she wanted to branch out and find something different. She had soon found an ad in the newspaper for UW-Stout, and she started here in 2018. She had applied to be whatever was available for work, as she just wanted a job at the time, but Stout saw it best fit for her to be one of the smiling faces of dining. She did end up leaving her job here at Stout in 2020 due to the fears of COVID-19 and she thought it best for her and her family if she

just stayed home for a while. She said that being home and away from all the students affected her mood in a way that nothing else could, and so she returned in December of 2021, and she plans to work here for as long as possible.

When asked how working at the university has impacted her life, her response was, "You can't imagine how this has impacted me." She loves being around all the students on campus and describes it as "making new friends every day." She states that being around the students has enriched her life and this enrichment has expanded to all aspects of her personal life including her own family. During the times when she could not work due to COVID-19, she claims it, "just about drove her nuts" being away from all her friends for so long. She believes that working with the students here keeps her active and makes her feel more alive.

At the end of every transaction you have with Lois, she will tell you to, "have an awesome day." When asked where this originated from, she said that it just came to her one day, and that she wanted to go a step further than having a good, or even a great day. She feels as though telling people to have an awesome day is the best advice she can give with the smallest number of words. Lois wants every person in her life to know that they are special and that they are loved, because as she put it, "you just never know." She shared a touching story with me about the day her late husband passed, where she is unsure whether she told him she loved him that day. She takes a moment out of every single day to tell her family that she loves them, and to brighten the student's day that she comes across. She recommends that we all do the same thing because, "You will never be able to know what kind of day that someone is having, and it is always better to be a day brightener."

UW-SPROUT

ZACH SPECKAN

Thanks to the efforts of several volunteers, a local garden prepares to go into hibernation.

I had the opportunity to speak to Abby Cullen, environmental science student and student manager of UW-Sprout, a local garden located on North Campus. After being introduced to the garden in a Plants and People class as a sophomore, Abby continued to volunteer there, first as an intern and eventually a manager.

UW-Sprout is a chemical-free garden, meaning no pesticides or herbicides are used. While this does mean the garden requires more effort to maintain (according to Cullen, about 80% of work goes into weeding and checking for diseases), it's worth it to make sure the plants are as healthy as possible. While the garden originally sold its produce locally, after COVID-19 the garden started donating its yields to university dining. Unfortunately, before then, the garden had to shut down for two years, with effort still being made today to restore the garden to its former glory.

Most recently, volunteers have been preparing the garden for the winter months. Tomatoes that have fallen into the soil have to be picked up to avoid rouge tomato plants from growing. In addition to sprouting unwanted produce, these rouge plants steal nutrients from neighboring plants, yielding a less successful crop. Additionally, holes near the fence have to be filled in, as these can grow in the winter, and wash away soil during wet weather. General maintenance, like covering the plants with leaves and collecting equipment left outside, also has to be performed. Surprisingly, some actual planting is done too; garlic seeds are laid out, as these have to be planted in fall if they want to sprout in the spring.

Remember that any vegetable you may eat in the dining hall may have come from our own UW-Sprout. If you want to help support an asset of our community, the garden will always welcome volunteers. UW-Sprout is located on North Campus, to the west of Red Cedar Hall.

"MAKE ABORTION ILLEGAL AGAIN" EVENT RECAP

CYNTHIA ROMANO

Kristan Hawkins of Students for Life of America came to UW-Stout on October 18th, 2022, with her event, titled, "Make Abortion Illegal Again." She was invited by the student organization, Stout Republicans, to spread information about abortion and the historic Supreme Court decision that overturned Roe v. Wade. The Dobbs decision, which occurred in the Summer of 2022, returned the decision to make abortion illegal to the states which effectively outlawed it across the country.

Hawkins began the event by enthusiastically announcing that since the overturning of Roe v. Wade, she and Students for Life of America, whose primary goal is to "recruit, train, and mobilize the pro-life generation to abolish abortion," had successfully aided in the closure of more than 66 abortion clinics across America. It was soon obvious that there was a split in point of view throughout the room, both sides being immediately defensive of their opinions. When standing in the back of the room, looking at the stage, the right side seemed to be pro-choice, and the left side pro-life. After a round of applause from the left side of the room, she then declared that because of their accomplishment, they had caused a national diaper shortage.

Hawkins then proudly announced that we no longer live in a nation where abortion is the norm, according to the Constitution, and it's not if abortion becomes completely illegal, but when. The atmosphere of the event was seemingly unpredictable as both sides of the room reacted to the speaker and each other. Campus police stood by the exits and helped to mediate the event.

The event then switched gears to the healthcare aspects of abortion. Hawkins scrutinized the system saying there was an abundance of gaslighting and fear-mongering within our country due to the fact the medical terminology for a miscarriage is a spontaneous abortion. She defines abortion as the "direct and intentional killing of a living human being."

After a reaction from the crowd on the right side of the room, Hawkins addressed those who were pro-choice and said "I think you're wrong, I think you're deeply wrong, I'm not here to argue with you, I'm here to persuade you." She also announced that her personal goal, along with Students for Life of America, was to make abortion illegal, unavailable, and completely unthinkable within the United States. During the question and answer portion of the event, she was asked to elaborate on what she meant by unthinkable, to which she responded that abortion would be completely stripped from popular culture.

Hawkins quoted an article from the Washington Post when discussing chemical abortion pills being shipped to women within the United States from other countries, specifically from Mexico. She described a chemical abortion as a two-pill cocktail, the first pill blocking progesterone, and the second pill causing cramps that effectively project the fetus.

She also briefly mentioned a suction abortion, or vacuum aspiration, which was addressed by a woman during the Q and A. The woman said that she used to be "pro-abortion" and that she even forced her daughter to have one during the third trimester before she "knew what it really meant." She said that her daughter had come out of the appointment and told her that she heard the bones breaking. The woman said she would never forget that.

Hawkins then went on to demonstrate the "D and E" procedure which is a safe and common abortion procedure performed during the second trimester. "D and E" stands for dilation and

evacuation. During the procedure, the medical professional will dilate the patient's cervix and use a tool to suction the fetus out.

While she demonstrated the procedure, her mic seemed to cut out and Tom Sawyer by Rush began to play over the speakers. The song effectively distracted the crowd from what she was saying as everyone watched the people trying to fix the audio instead.

The rest of the event consisted of the Q and A portion which was calm at first but became disorganized as more people went up. It seemed that no questions from the right side of the room were answered, and were instead deflected back onto the questioner. Her solutions to not getting an abortion included the use of safe haven boxes and reaching out for support through her organization's programs. When asked about paid family leave, Hawkins said she wanted to implement a program where the funding for paid family leave is borrowed from your own social security instead of directly from the government.

At the end of the Q and A discussion, there was a small altercation between a student from the right side of the room and a community member from the left side. Campus police had to intervene to diffuse the situation, after which, Hawkins ended the event and everyone left in an orderly fashion.

INTERVIEW WITH CHANCELLOR FRANK

RACHEL HUMPHREY

Chancellor Katherine Frank has worked a variety of academic and administrative jobs, from being a teacher's assistant, to assisting with administrative work at the University of Washington, before eventually landing the role of UW-Stout's 8th Chancellor on March 1st, 2020. Her array of jobs and experience in the educational field have supplied her with a well-rounded and student-centered vision. Her investiture activities normally would have been around that time, but unfortunately, COVID-19 hit around a week later.

Of course, COVID-19 was a huge surprise, and drastically changed the operations of every school across the globe. UW-Stout was no different, and Chancellor Frank certainly had her hands full. She went on to say that working throughout COVID-19 was challenging and impacted going abouts at the University. "Covid impacted all operations at the university, involved university and community coordination and collaboration, included coordination with the UW System, and involved communication with the vast network of university stakeholders." However, Chancellor Frank states that she's proud of how the university handled the challenges, including new construction plans and a new athletics team, women's lacrosse, among other accomplishments.

Eventually, after it was safe to have large gatherings, Chancellor Frank kicked off her investiture activities on October 14th of this year. It was a week-long event, helmed by a committee of faculty, staff and students who she said "did an outstanding job". When asked to pick a favorite, Chancellor Frank said that she enjoyed any activity that emphasized our community. She went on to say that "Investiture ceremonies are usually centered on the new leader as they begin a new role at a university. I really wanted our investiture celebration to be about UW-Stout, our community of learners, and our friends and partners who help to support the university's mission and work." She specified that the K-12 art exhibit at Raw Deal and the Rotary Pack-a-thon were some of the standout events, though she was incredibly grateful at the amount of support she got throughout the week.

Chancellor Frank's joy with the more community emphasized events certainly correlate to her leadership style as well, as she says, "Each role is grounded in student success, meaning that students are always at the center of the work. I have learned how and why students should be kept at the center regardless of the work involved.". Chancellor Frank hopes that UW-Stout continues to improve as a university through their 10-year plan "FOCUS2030", increase enrollment numbers, launch their comprehensive Academic Plan led by Provost Rodriguez, implement the Strategic Enrollment Plan led by Vice Chancellor King and design and launch a new Long-Range University Plan focused on university infrastructure led by Vice Chancellor Guenard.

There are 19 Menomonie and Stout related words.
See if you can find them all!

R	N	U	L	A	M	E	M	O	R	I	A	L	U
E	N	I	M	O	N	E	M	E	K	A	L	R	T
T	H	H	C	M	S	O	U	T	H	H	A	L	L
N	D	A	C	L	N	M	J	O	H	N	S	O	N
I	N	E	S	U	O	H	D	L	E	I	F	L	M
A	U	N	T	K	L	C	C	B	M	O	N	A	C
T	L	A	O	A	R	V	K	I	N	Y	N	E	C
L	K	M	P	Y	T	E	E	T	C	L	F	D	A
E	Y	W	P	K	S	N	D	R	O	E	O	W	L
B	R	O	E	I	L	L	E	C	S	W	J	A	M
A	F	B	R	Y	O	R	B	D	E	I	E	R	O
M	B	U	S	I	N	E	S	S	U	D	L	R	N
H	A	R	V	E	Y	H	A	L	L	T	A	S	T
C	H	E	I	N	O	M	O	N	E	M	S	R	N

NEW AND IMPROVED: BLAZE THE BLUE DEVIL

ANNIE JACOBSON

Mascots serve the purpose of provoking school spirit and contributing to the school's identity, so updating Blaze the Blue Devil's costume came naturally with Stout's rebrand. The costume is put on by an outgoing student who works to keep crowds engaged at sporting events by acting in amusing ways, sometimes causing you to pay more attention to them rather than the game.

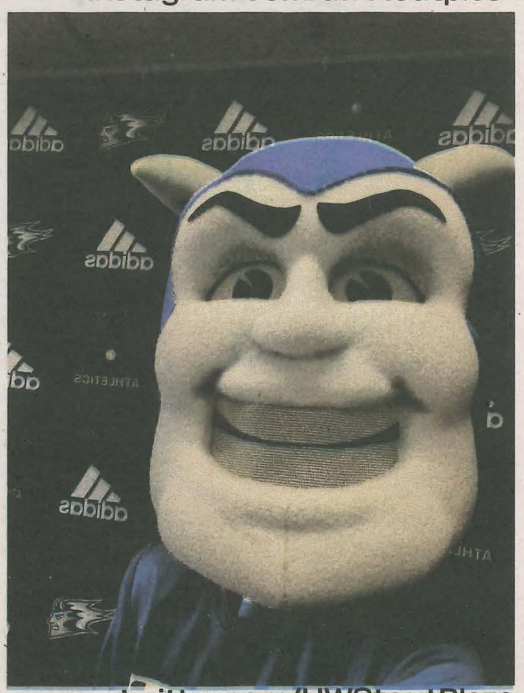
The new mascot costume for Blaze was revealed at a football game this Fall against UW-Platteville around the same time that other aspects of a school-wide re-brand were released, including updates to Stout's color, font, and logo. Blaze now rocks a navy blue costume that includes the new font on it's shirt. The new look was shared via a reel on the UW Stout Pics Instagram as well, revealing the new Blaze to those who did not attend the game to see it in person.

While walking around campus conducting impromptu interviews with students, all agreed - the new Blaze looks more like a devil and much scarier. "I think he looks more intimidating, cleaner… less like a cartoon character," said UW-Stout student Rebecca Bergman. Bergman also mentioned that she likes the new font on the shirt as well as the horns which contributed to the more realistic-looking "blue devil".

Like many other students, Justin Johnson also thinks Blaze looks scarier, saying, "He looks more aggressive". Johnson shared that he liked the more realistic blue devil because it reminded him less of Mickey Mouse and more of an actual devil. Another student that liked the new costume shared that even though they like it, if they had a child, they would not want to have their picture taken with it.

The new Blaze costume is doing its job. Some people that participated in interviews shared that they went to the football game for the sole purpose of seeing Blaze. It is getting the student body talking while promoting school spirit. While the new and improved Blaze is much more intimidating than the old one, and that may have surprised some people, it seems like UW-Stout students like the updated version.

instagram.com/uwstoutpics



twitter.com/UWStoutBlaze

STOUT'S NEW LOGO

ZACH SPECKAN

Stout has a new logo! Instead of the familiar quill perched atop the weathervane on Bowman Hall, this new logo depicts a trio of ribbons woven into the letter "S". According to Chancellor Katherine Frank in October's UW-Stout Investiture Celebration, the new logo is meant to "[trace] the path of innovation through our past and present, and [illuminate] our future". It also is mean to reflect Stout's focus on applied learning, career focus, and collaboration, and display the relationships between Stout's students, faculty, teachers, and the greater Menomonie community.

Despite the amount of thought that apparently went into the logo, general student reception has been mixed to negative. Many students were quick to remark how "corporate" and "oversimplified" the new logo was, with one student claiming it looked like something you would find on a travel agency or insurance website. The consensus seems to be that while Stout's old quill was technically simpler, the hand-drawn look gave it much more personality that the new "S", which was almost certainly created digitally (nothing against the medium).

Additionally, many students strongly felt the quill better represented Stout. As previously mentioned, the quill seen in Stout's old logo depicts the quill seen at the very top of Bowman Hall and is therefore visible virtually anywhere on campus. The quill has been a campus staple ever since Stout was founded back in 1898, and during Bowman Hall's 2020 renovation, the iconic weathervane was the very last feature to be restored. One student admitted a particular fondness for the quill imagery, as they had spent many classes in Bowman Hall, under the quill itself. Even the few students who were indifferent to the change thought the new logo could be improved. One student admitted that while they could understand the desire to modernize (i.e. simplify) Stout's logo, they would have still kept the familiar feather imagery. Furthermore, even after explaining what the new logo was meant to represent, nearly all students were unimpressed. One student strongly believed that the immediate impression of a logo is more important than its deeper meaning, and one shouldn't have to explain every piece of a logo's symbolism to convince others of its quality.

While the logo redesign may not be as widely talked about as Blaze's redesign, the reception seems to be largely the same. But what do you think of the new logo? Does it give Stout's image a much-needed makeover, or are some things better left untouched?

STOUT THEATER IS BACK!

BECKY GASPORD, BAILEY PEDERSEN

The Performing Arts program has been on a hiatus since 2019, but at long last, they are back! The last time Stout had a theatrical production was in 2019 with Picasso at the Lapin Agile. This spring's musical is Be More Chill, directed by Audric Buhr.

Be More Chill first premiered in May of 2015 at the Two River Theatre in Red Bank, New Jersey. It had mixed reviews outside of New Jersey and did not receive another production. However, in 2017, it began to gain popularity. The rise in popularity gave way to an Off-Broadway production (2018), a Broadway production (2019), and a West End production (2021).

Be More Chill follows the story of Jeremy Heere. Jeremy is at the bottom of the social ladder in his school and uses a Japanese supercomputer, called the SQUIP, to gain popularity. However, this supercomputer does more than help Jeremy choose his clothes in the morning. Eventually, the SQUIP starts asking Jeremy to do things that could cost him his best friend, crush, classmates, and even the whole world.

Audric Buhr, the Theatre Director, discussed his excitement for the upcoming production. When asked how he feels about getting Stout Performing Arts running again, he says, "there's a hunger from the students and community to see a live theater return," and he's "excited to be charged with the task." Audric loves to build things, so he believes this is "something he is called and drawn to do."

Audric explained the complicated process for why and how he chose Be More Chill as the performance for this spring. He is always reading shows, and he mainly considers the setting and how that could work. He was initially introduced to Be More Chill by Lou Feller, a student at Stout who he had also taught in high school. At first, Audric hated Be More Chill - he didn't quite "get the draw to it." However, he says that "seeing how the world has changed with mental health and acceptance, I felt compelled to choose it. When I was hired by Stout in late July, I realized that Be More Chill just made sense - it was perfect for Stout because of the connection to gaming and game design ." After he announced the show to the students, there was enthusiasm and excitement, so he knew he had made the right choice. Audric says this show "connects to so many people and the struggles we go through with acceptance and being true to who we are."

MEET THE STAGE MANAGERS

BECKY GASPORD, BAILEY PEDERSEN

Interviewees: Fox Haring (they/them) and Cara Jenquin (they/them)

Q: What is your grade and major?

FH: I am a freshman in the Psychology major

CJ: I am a sophomore and majoring in Professional Communication and Emerging Media, with a minor in Disability Services.

Q: How does theater fit into your everyday life? What does it mean to you?

FH: Theater has been a part of my everyday life for several years, and that's no different here. I go to rehearsal most days, and it honestly feels kind of weird when I don't go! I love every part of putting on a show, from building the sets to opening night. To be able to do that at Stout is a privilege I didn't expect to have, and I'm super excited to be putting on shows again!

CJ: During the roughest parts of my life, theater has always been there for me. Theatre was always that place that no matter what I had going on outside of the show that I was working on, I could always come to rehearsal/time in the shop and feel like a valuable part of the team. Over the years I have also done a lot of work in adaptive theater programs and children's theater. Creating that space for others is something I am very passionate about.

Q: From a stage manager's perspective, what do you feel is going to be the biggest struggle with the production? How about the biggest strength?

FH: The biggest struggle will likely come from the fact that a lot of the people involved are new to theater, or to this specific style of theater. Lots of people are getting the chance to learn what being part of a big production is like, and that experience is priceless. As for the biggest strength, I think it will come from the same place- with so many people who are newer to the experience, we get fresh and interesting perspectives that will make the finished product magical.

CJ: As with a lot of shows, I think that one of the things that a cast and crew may struggle with is not having enough time to incorporate every single idea the staff has about the show, a lot of times in those last couple of weeks it comes down to "alright, what is necessary to make this show successful, and what will not happen in the time we have left". That doesn't mean that the show will be bad in the end, it just means that there might be some tension about letting ideas go. I think our greatest strength with this show is the people. Working with a new group of people is always exciting but never have I seen the type of chemistry the cast has developed this quickly, with such little drama. They work hard during rehearsals and are really supportive of each other. I think it will shake out to be a good show.

ADVERTISE WITH US!

Want to inform the whole campus about an event or a group you're a part of?
Do you want to put the spotlight on your organization?

Just send an email at Stoutonia@uwstout.edu.

MAKER'S NIGHT

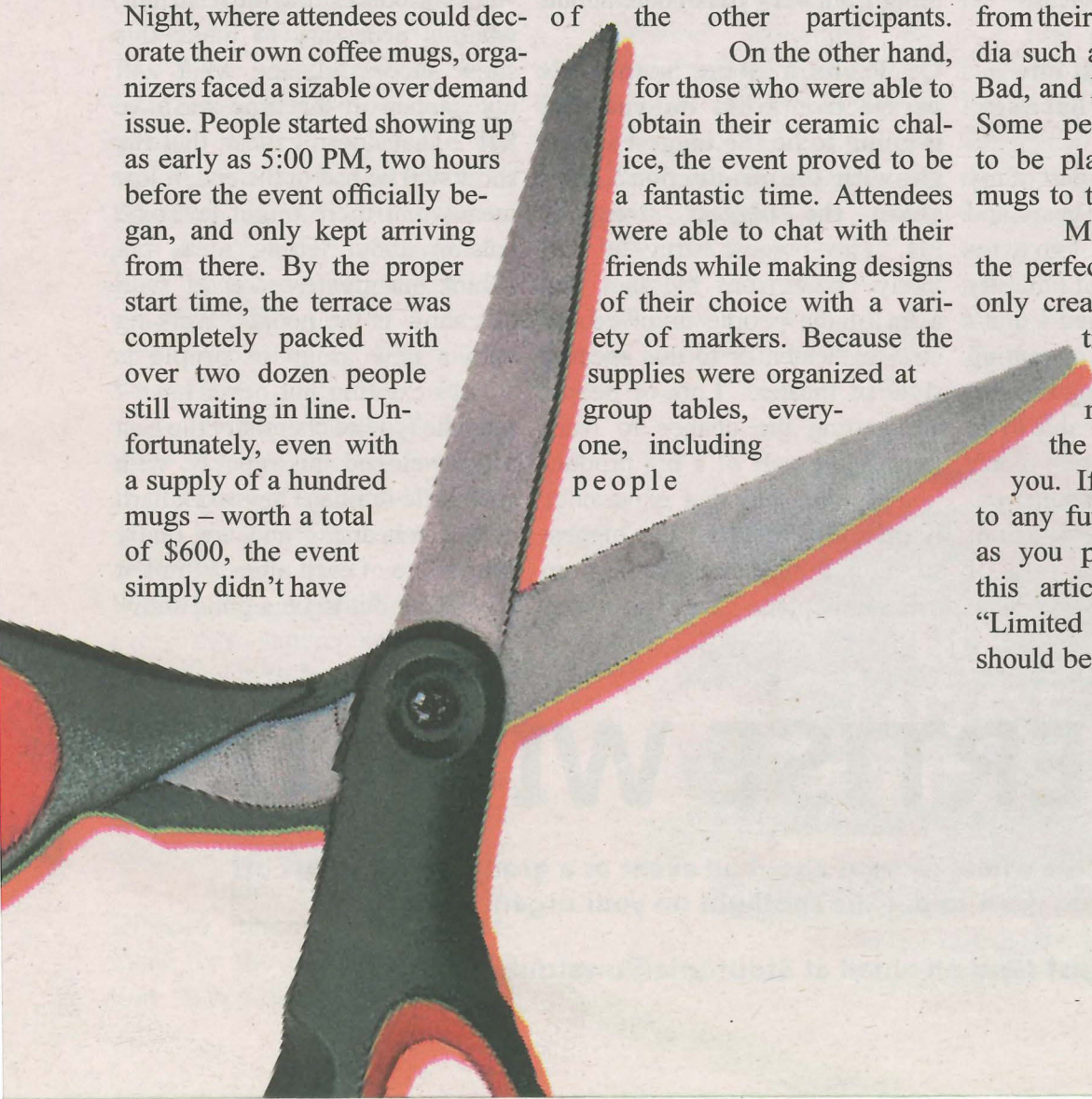
ZACH SPECKAN

A past "Maker's Night" hosted by Blue Devil Productions was themed around everybody's favorite drinking apparatus and proved to be much more popular than anticipated.

At a September Maker's Night, where attendees could decorate their own coffee mugs, organizers faced a sizable over demand issue. People started showing up as early as 5:00 PM, two hours before the event officially began, and only kept arriving from there. By the proper start time, the terrace was completely packed with over two dozen people still waiting in line. Unfortunately, even with a supply of a hundred mugs – worth a total of $600, the event simply didn't have enough supplies for everyone, and if you didn't show up early, you were unable to participate, though everyone was still invited inside for complementary lemonade and cookies, as well as a chance to look at the great designs of the other participants.

On the other hand, for those who were able to obtain their ceramic chalice, the event proved to be a fantastic time. Attendees were able to chat with their friends while making designs of their choice with a variety of markers. Because the supplies were organized at group tables, everyone, including people who may have shown up solo, had a chance to talk to others and get to know their fellow students. People drew patterns such as hearts, lighting, plants, motivational quotes and other writings, as well as characters from their favorite pieces of media such as Garfield, Breaking Bad, and My Neighbor Totoro. Some people even appeared to be planning to give their mugs to their family as a gift.

Maker's Nights are the perfect opportunity to not only create a custom decoration for your room or a gift, but to make new friends that share the same interests as you. If you do plan to go to any future Maker's Nights, as you probably guessed by this article, get there early. "Limited while supplies last" should be taken seriously here.



CAMPUS SQUIRRELS

TAYLOR KNOEPKE

Squirrels are incredibly intelligent creatures, and while we do need to be careful, they can be quite fascinating up close. We have a good number of squirrels on campus, many of which can be seen on the south lawn, next to the Student Memorial Center. A fun fact, Squirrels can jump from any height without suffering injury. This is because they become their own parachutes! If you watch Mark Rober on YouTube, and find his obstacle courses, not ovnly are you in for a very entertaining video, but he'll teach you how Squirrels can do this! We can see our Furry Friends spend so much time in this area due to the Walnut trees, something Rober also discovered.

There is a special squirrel on campus though. Many students are familiar with the infamous White squirrel. We at Stoutonia have decided he needed a name. After creating a poll, we learned this sweet thing has one already! If you didn't know already, his name is Casper. After contacting the leader of Squirrel Scout, Riley Dombrowski, we were informed that the white squirrel may not actually be albino! Casper may have another rare genetic mutation called Leucism. The only seen difference is animals with this condition don't have the same red eyes as Albinos.

These furry little creatures are great additions to the wildlife on campus, please remember to place your trash in the correct bins to protect them and our other wildlife friends.

CHASING RECOGNITION: BOYS XC AT NATIONALS

ABBY BORASH

On Saturday November 19th, the UW-Stout men's cross-country team trekked to Forest Akers East Golf Course in Lansing, Michigan to make their fifth consecutive team appearance at the NCAA DIII Cross Country Championships. Tallying a team finish of 23rd out of 32 teams, Stout received recognition on the podium as 5th year, Spencer Schultz, was declared All-American for his 37th place finish.

Stout's roster of "Brothers in Argyle" for the championship race includes as follows: Spencer Schultz, Special Education '23; Matt Ryan, Computer Engineering '23; Ethan Hinderman, Computer and Electrical Engineering '23; Ian Williams, Computer and Electrical Engineering 24'; Matt Thomas, Computer Science '24; Cale Bishop, Real Estate Property Management '25; Jaad Stout, Criminal Justice and Rehabilitation '25.

Having to brave multiple obstacles on the course like temperature, snow, ice, wind, and congestion of runners, Coach Matthew Schauf says, in the last 8 years he has been coaching at Stout, these conditions were the most challenging to race in. "It did not snow during the race at all, but Friday brought 5 inches of snow. The snow ended at 7 a.m. the morning of the race, and the majority of it was cleared in time, but there were still loads of drifted powder on the course they could not clear from Thursday to Saturday's accumulated snowfall. At race time, the air temperature was 21 degrees Fahrenheit, wind chill was 10, and wind gusts of 15 miles per hour; this was the coldest fall meet I could remember."

Cross country is a sport where the application of geometry can

Photos by Matt Shauf and Dan Draiss of D3 Photography

be used to a runner's advantage along the course—especially on curves and turns. Schauf continues, "The snow was a blockade because some runners avoided running the tangents and ended up running extra meters to avoid the snow on the course. Runners were falling a lot in the process. It was a 'pick your poison' course." This 8k (5 mile) uphill-finish course hosted 294 runners for the men's race. Due to the competitive nature of championships, Schauff mentions that one false move can make or break a runner's overall standing at the national level due to the amount of similar ability within one race.

Although this is their fifth consecutive national appearance as a team, it had not always been a guarantee in the program for the men's team to advance. In 2014, the men's team qualified for nationals—the first time in 28 years. To proceed onto the championship race as a team, there is a tedious process of deciding which teams will participate within the 10-region structure. Schauf says, "The first team in each region automatically qualifies. There is then a committee with a representative of a different role whether it be a coach, administrator, or whatever, for each of the regions that then meet to select the remaining 22 teams because then the field is 32 teams. Now, we have never been an automatic qualifier; we have always been at that large. The committee meets 6-8 hours, deliberating over season performances comparing you against automatic qualifiers and other at-large potential schools to get in." .

With losing leaders Schultz, Ryan, and Hinderman to graduation next season, it is inevitable to lose hope for next season. However, the team is deep in talent and has enough bodies to fill the void. The team will continue to set physical goals regarding athletic ability, they will also continue to pursue the psychological goal of recognition and intimidation—meaning, they want to be feared by their competitors because of their incredible consistence.

Amid the cold and ice, runners continue their fartlek and tempo run workouts around campus as track season approaches with Schauff coaching distance events for another season.

As the Blue Devil runners chant at the end of warmups: STOUUUU-TAH-HHHHHHHHH!

SATIRE

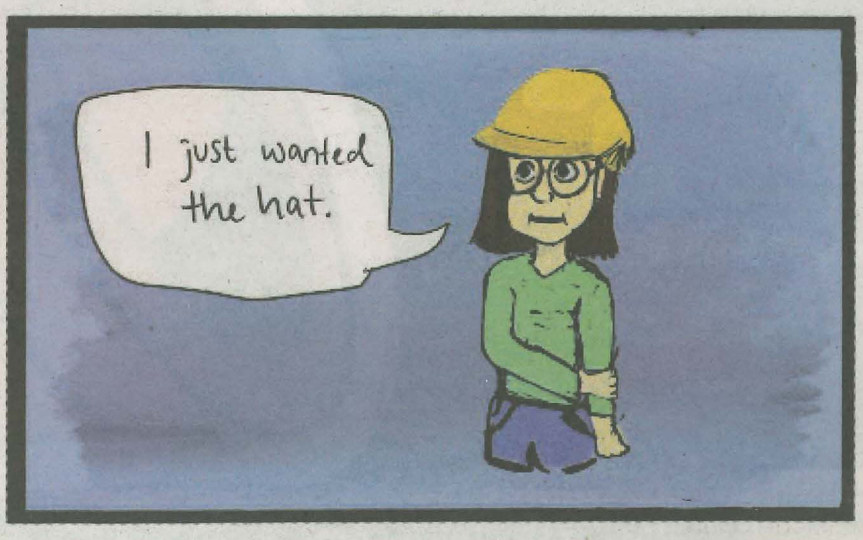
EX-TWITTER VIRTUE SIGNAL EXPERT WORRIED THEY MAY NEED TO DO REAL LIFE GOOD

ANDREW KNEEN

Linda Johnston, once a prolific virtue signaling aficionado on the social media platform Twitter, has encountered a crisis in their occupation. "There was a time when I could freely critique people for not being as holy and blameless as I without any worry of dissidents. If someone was less enlightened than I, I could show my disagreement by doxing them, informing their employer of their unacceptable views, and encouraging my followers to mass-report their tweet. Overnight, I lost everything. I woke up to see that 41 of the accounts I reported the previous night for promoting violent extremism (they disagreed with me, one even called me "obj*ctively wr*ng") had been deemed invalid grounds for bans! I thought to myself, this is just like George Orwell's book, 1984, where people cruelly tyrannize with their open discussions! It doesn't feel like the world has a place for a tone police officer like me anymore..." When asked what they would do next, Linda was quoted as saying, "Since my ideas are so correct and pure, the lowly beasts, I mean, those less educated don't deserve to be graced with my words. If they can't embrace them at face value, they're just ignorant sheep! Obviously, I left the site for good! The problem now is, I am experiencing withdrawal symptoms from my moral high... I haven't had the chance to let nearly anyone know how much smarter I am than they are! I've started to have these weird urges to do good and embody virtue in the real world, rather than tell everyone online how good and virtuous I am. At first, signing online petitions like "Sign to ban volcanos from emitting CO2" and "Sign to tell Putin to cut it out, buster!" gave me the high I missed so much, but the withdrawal symptoms began to return. I even put a few more stickers on my car like "end homeless people" and "haven't women suffraged enough?" On my drive from my local, sustainable, ethically sourced, labor-equitable coffee shop (Starbucks), I spotted a kitchen offering free meals that had a "volunteers needed" sign out front. I felt this strange urge to help and do physical good. I turned into the parking lot and nearly went in to volunteer, but I remembered that nobody rich, famous, or popular would see how good I am, not to mention, needy people kind of gross me out. Thankfully I came to my senses and thought, 'What could I criticize about how these people run their organization?'. First, I noticed that this kitchen was in a church, gross, forcing their religion!?! Then I saw that the food they were giving them wasn't organic, vegan, or local, like, are they trying to poison these people? What really did it for me was they were accepting donations. They were clearly another corrupt megachurch manipulating people for money and playing the tax code to buy private jets. Sense of moral superiority restored, I logged into Myspace to let everyone know of this outrageous coterie!"

Hey!
Since when have you been a construction worker?

-oops
WET CEMENT


I just wanted the hat.

STOUTONIA IS HIRING!

JOIN OUR TEAM!

DO YOU ENJOY...

- WRITING / EDITING
- PHOTOGRAPHY
- GRAPHIC DESIGN
- OR BEING PART OF A FUN AND SUPPORTIVE TEAM?

INTERESTED? CONTACT US!

Please reach out to us via email at stoutonia@uwstout.edu

Check Us Out! Our Website : https://stoutonia.com/

Not produced at taxpayer's expense.